



Meeting: **Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board**
Agenda Item 3.3

June 17, 2022

Subject: **Public Engagement Working Groups**

Requested Action:

Review and comment on the formation of public engagement working groups.

Detailed Description/Background:

The Communications Team is proposing to establish two new public engagement working groups in an effort to provide a forum for efficient, effective, and meaningful local community and tribal nation input into the development of the project. This step toward an increasing and collaborative engagement effort is largely being initiated to be responsive to comments received on the RDEIR/SDEIS and is consistent with the mission and values of the Authority as reflected in the adopted 2020 Strategic Plan.

In developing the make-up of these two bodies, bringing on the local knowledge and presence was the key objective. It is these local community members that share the pulse of the affected communities and are seen as best able to provide meaningful and constructive input to help form several important locally-driven elements of project (e.g. recreation areas, retaining historical significance of the area, construction activities, etc).

The proposed new working groups would include a Local Community Working Group and a Tribal Government Working Group as follows.

- The Local Community Working Group would represent a broad cross-section of local agencies and community organizations in the Colusa, Glenn and Yolo County areas.
- The Tribal Government Working Group would include the five tribes geographically and culturally associated with the Sites Reservoir project area.
- Both working groups would include representatives from the Authority Board and Reservoir Committee.

Over the next few weeks, the Communications Team will be coordinating with the Legislative & Outreach Committee to develop Working Group Charters, establish working group guiding principles, identify and engage with prospective participants to secure designated representatives, send out formal invitations and hold the first meetings in August 2022.

Authority Board (AB) and Reservoir Committee (RC) participation in both Working Groups will be vital to the program's overall success. The

Communication Team will be reaching out to AB/RC members to solicit volunteers to participate as members of the working groups.

At its June 7, 2022 meeting, the Legislative & Outreach Committee reviewed the proposed strategy and concurred with the establishment of the Community Working Group and the Tribal Government Working Group.

Prior Authority Board Action:

None.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

No fiscal impact. The services need to support these groups are included in the approved Amendment 3 Work Plan. It is envisioned that the working groups will assist in creating specificity to the locally-driven project elements already involved in the project cost estimate.

Staff Contact:

Kevin Spesert

Primary Service Provider:

Katz & Associates

Attachments:

Attachment A: Proposed Working Groups Participants

Community Work Group Potential Participants

- AB Representative
- RC Representative
- Federal Electeds Staff (LaMalfa, Thompson)
- State Electeds Staff (Aguilar Curry & Gallagher, Dahle)
- Colusa County (Public Works, Planning, and Sheriff)
- Glenn County (Public Works, Planning, and Sheriff)
- Yolo County (Public Works & Planning)
- Colusa County Superintendent of Schools
- Maxwell Unified School District
- Maxwell Fire Protection District
- Bear Valley Fire Protection District
- Maxwell Public Utility District
- Maxwell Park & Recreation District
- Colusa Migrant Farm Housing Center (Colusa Ag Commissioner) *
- Colusa County Farm Bureau
- Glenn County Farm Bureau
- Yolo County Farm Bureau
- Sac Valley Museum
- Stonyford Museum
- Colusa County Chamber of Commerce
- Willows Chamber of Commerce
- Local business representatives (Maxwell Inn and one from Stonyford)
- American Legion Post (Maxwell)
- Family Water Alliance

Potential Tribal Governments Work Group Invited Participants

- Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
- Cortina Indian Rancheria
- Grindstone Indian Rancheria
- Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians
- AB Representative
- RC Representative